AN OLD SALT'S OPINION.

- "KIND sir, come listen and mark," said he then. "How sad is the story I'll tell. It is not as you think that my trouble is drink, But-The Navy is going to H-1!"
- "Now we've had quite enough of the antique ideas Of those chaps who are nothing but sailors-They were well in their way, but this is the day Of Science, Æsthetics, and Tailors,
- "Searce one of all those who with Farragut fought Or with Porter stood fire stout-hearted, Is versed in Keramies, or Thermo-dynamies,
- So their day of use has departed. "It is true that they battled in treason's black night And carried the flag through with glory-But they're very ill-dressed, and when this is confessed How sad seems their soul-stirring story.
- "Hence the time has arrived to lay on the shelf The whole scrubby lot of mere fighters-With the old school away! and ring in the day Of cultured Exquisites and Writers!" -An Old Master, U. S. N., in United Service for October

SOME INSTANCES OF EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

carry an ox on his shoulders, and slay one with life he displayed remarkable strength and dex- office. He was to have two stalwart assistants his fist, was an athlete of might; but there have terity for his years; and when twenty-four years there, and immediately seize the men as they been modern men of muscle capable of emulating of age, he began publicly to exhibit his aston- entered and vaccinate them by force. Editor the feats of Milo; and were trials of strength as ishing feats. Among other of Joy's performances, Keene had his office just across the hall in the popular and profitable as trials of speed, endurble is said to have been able to retain and keep in same building with the Doctor. Tuesday mornlar champion as yet unknown to fame.

of Islington, although he failed to draw the bow lift from the ground a stone said to be a ton door. Presently up came Lieutenant Pills of the of a Finsbury archer two-thirds of its length, justified the title bestowed upon him by rolling to a wall, which had previously borne more than up a pewter dish with his fingers, bending a kitchen poker around the neck of an offending hostler, and pulling against a horse with his feet against a low wall. With his teeth he could lift a table six feet long, having a half-hundredweight attached to it; and coming upon a watchman fast asleep in his box, he took up box and man, and dropped them over the wall of a burial-ground.

In 1871, "Monsieur Gregorie," claiming to be seventy-one years old, mightily astonished the of such herculean qualities. In September, 1818, Thug, of the Plungers. "Where is the pirate?" good folks of Hereford by carrying seven hundred- there was shown at Bartholomew Fair, London, he asked. The Doctor did not reply, but vacci- will cost you nothing. weight with the greatest of ease, and by perform- what was called in the advertisement "the nated the excited man in a jiffy, and put him out. ing certain other extraordinary feats. Twenty strongest woman in Europe, the celebrated French Then others began to pour in, and all had the done it again and again in his young days when carry thirty-six weights, fifty-six pounds each, traveling with an Italian circus. An English | equal to two thousand and sixteen pounds, and doctor who knew Gregorie intimately, describes will disengage herself from them without any Pills swore he'd go up again and kill the man, him as looking like an exaggerated example of a assistance." She was also notified as able to bear and he tried it. But he got left on it, and the muscular study by Fuseli or Haydon, having pro- an anvil of four hundred pounds-weight on her doctor vaccinated him again and put him out, digious shoulders and a biceps almest incredible. chest, while men torged on it with hammers; and he being delirious with wrath bolted in For all that, he was one of the quietest of men, finishing up this branch of the performance by again, and, after a desperate fight, was vaccinated and simple as a child; living in constant dread lifting the anvil with her hair, and "suspending again. That satisfied him. He fled. And Dr. lest he should be provoked in using his strength | it in that position, to the astonishment of every | Trough had vaccinated twenty-two of the Plungunprofessionally; and afraid to nurse his own beholder." She was also to take up a chair by ers, and they were outside preparing for an united baby lest he should give it a fatal squeeze.

Hungarian public by holding a table in the air to see these performances, thought there was a cinated twenty-two of 'em!" "You have? Why by his hands and teeth, while a couple of gipsies | good deal of trick in many of them. He describes | I haven't sent one here! I came to tell you I'd danced upon it to a third's fiddling. He and one the table she was to lift with her teeth as "a put it off till next week." "Then who the Geof his brothers would bear upon their shoulders a slight rickety thing, made of deal, with a bar henna have I vaccinated?" By that time the sort of wooden bridge, while a cart full of stones, across the legs, which, upon her grasping it, is Plungers burst in, and a scene of wild confusion drawn by two horses, was driven over it. Fall- sustained against her thighs, and enables her ensued, till Col. McWhangdang explained the ing into evil ways, Joseph was imprisoned in the more easily to swing it around several times, affair. And then the Colonel nearly died of laughfortress of Ofen, and one day volunteered to give | maintaining her hold only by her teeth." The | ter, and the Plungers talked of hanging the Docthe prison inspectors a specimen of his abilities; chair, he says, "she makes nothing of, but canters tor, and then Keene looked out of his door and and permission being accorded, he so arranged it over her head like a plaything." Upon the notified the Plungers that if they molested him the governor's heavy mahogany table as to hold whole, this spectator was disappointed. "That he'd print the whole story of how they had been it suspended with his teeth for nearly half a she is a strong woman," he concludes, "is evident; vaccinated. And you bet they didn't desire that, minute.

performing at a Berlin theatre, executed the fol- wise credited with possessing great strength; and lowing extraordinary feat. As he swung head downwards from a trapeze, to which his ankles were fixed, a horse covered with gay trappings, "which weighed two tons," sunk in the mud and begirt with a broad leathern sureingle having two strong loops attached to it, and mounted by a full-grown man, was brought on the central stage, above which Joignery hung suspended. by sheer muscular strength, lifted horse and rider some inches off the stage; sustained their combined weight in the air for some seconds, and then let them down again as evenly and slowly as he had raised them.

of Amu bin Osman's caravan, standing six feet five inches barefooted, and measuring thirty-two inches from shoulder to shoulder, could toss an ordinary-sized man ten feet in the air, and catch him in his descent. He would take one of the large white Muscat donkeys by the ears, and with a sudden movement of his right foot, lay the surprised ass on its back; carry a three-yoar-old bullock on his back half-way round his master's plantation; and once actually bore twelve men horses at a guinea a week; and he adds that she on his back, shoulders, and chest, round Osman's always rode without a saddle, and was the best house, to the intense wonder of a large crowd of judge not only of horses, but of cattle as well, in applauding spectators.

Pete Pauquette, a slim-built but muscularlimbed half-breed, is still living to glory in his sobriquet of the Sampson of Wisconsin. It was a favorite performance with him to take a handful of dry, hard hickory nuts, and crush them to pieces by merely closing his hands upon them. Senator Clark, who knew him well in his best days, said: "His muscles were like iron. I have had him bare his arm to me, and I have taken a hammer and cracked hickory nuts upon the muscles; and it was like cracking them on a stone. One day," relates the Senator, "a party was proceeding by boat up the Fox, intending to go down the Wisconsin. When the portage came to be made, a yoke of oxen was procured to draw the boat across. It was very heavy; and before half the distance had been made, one of the oxen gave out completely. Pauquette was along, and what do you suppose he did? Well, he took the end of the yoke vacated by the played-out ox, and pulled with the other one, and the novel team hauled the boat and traps across all right; and Pete did not seem to mind the strain half so much

as the old ox did." Great commanders have not, as a rule, been notable for the possession of extraordinary physical powers. Washington was an exception, being a man of great strength. In his youth, he was once an onlooker at a wrestling contest, and growing weary of the sport, he threw himself at the foot of a tree to enjoy his book. By-and-by, he was challenged to try a fall with the hero of

strength of arm. Taking a morning ride, he saw | cut." three of his men vainly endeavoring to raise a large stone. Jumping off his horse, Washington pushed the men aside, and without any apparent remounting, rode on.

known in his day as "the English Samson." He | they would or no. So he made a trade like this was a native of Kent, having been born near with Dr. Trough. He would on Tuesday morn- send \$20, to pay Government application fee of \$15, and Mile, the pride of ancient Crotona, who could Ramsgate in 1675. From an early period of his ing send the men one by one to the Doctor's ance, and skill, we should probably not have to place a strong horse, urged by whip to escape his ing's issue of his paper contained a malignant wait very long before seeing the best performance powerful rein, solely by the check of his pull, assault on the "Piebald Plungers," another milion record thrown into the shade by some muscu- without any stay or support whatever. Aided by tary company. Keene knew the members of the a strong leathern girdle or belt, and supporting company would come up to wallop him, and so Topham, popularly known as the Strong Man himself by pressing his arms on a railing, he could he slyly took his sign and put it on Dr. Trough's weight. He also broke asunder a rope fastened Plungers. Blind with rage, he rushed into the a ton and a half weight without breaking. Notwithstanding his great strength, he was possessed of singularly agile and flexibie joints, many won- had him in the chair. "Up with his sleeve!" derful stories being told of his feats in this respect, foot, which he could twist round with his hands, and conveying the glass in this way to his mouth - howls and struggles, he was vaccinated. "Now without spilling.

years previously, he had performed Milo's feat in Female Hercules, Madame Gobert, who will lift a slaughter-house at Witley, in Worcester shire. with her teeth a table five feet long and three feet It was, however, no new feat with him; he had wide, with several persons seated upon it; also the hind stave with her teeth, and throw it over | rush on his shop when Col. McWhangdang came Joseph Pospischilli was wont to amuse the her head, ten feet from her body. One who went down to see the doctor. "Well, Colonel, I've vacbut that she can perform what is promised in her and so they merely voted it a contemptible job Joignery, a French professional acrobat, lately | bills, is a notorious untruth." Yet she is other- and dispersed. it is told that on one occasion, on the road between Harwich and Leominister, when her caravan,

the period. He saw her at Matlock in July, 1801, time. and thus writes of her: "The greatest wonder I saw was Miss Phœbe Bown, in person five feet six, about thirty, well-proportioned, round-faced, and ruddy. Her step (pardon the Irishman) is more manly than a man's and can easily covers forty miles a day. She can lift one hundred-weight with each hand, and carry fourteen score." Her chief avocation was breaking-in the whole countryside.

In 1794, a man named Sheppard, a sergeant in the Coventry Volunteers, was noted for his strength. He was then about five or six and twenty years of age. An eye-witness mentions that, on being requested to show a proof of his strength, Sheppard desired to have a few oysters sent for, the largest that could be procured, unopened. These being produced-"and large

the day. At first, he declined, until finding his ones they were-he took six, and devoured them, refusal attributed to fear, he entered the arena, shells and all, in a manner we generally see a and without taking off his coat, grappled with person munch a biscuit." The same writer states his opponent, and, after a brief struggle, hurled | that he lifted a heavy mahogany table with his him to the ground with such force, that the best | teeth; and that he also took two men, of modwrestler in Virginia was in much the same pre- erate size, one in each hand, raised them from the dicament as the Duke's wrestler when he tried ground, and held them at arms' length. This conclusions with Orlando. Later on in life, while | man is said to have acknowledged that his supe- | Attorney-at-Law and Solicitor of watching some young fellows contending at throw- rior strength lay in his jaw and neck; and "he ing the bar, Washington asked to be allowed has been known to take a pewter pint pot, and to try what he could do; and grasping the bar, tear it into pieces and shreds with his teeth." sent it flying through the air, to land many feet | Sheppard, probably with a view to exciting the beyond the limit attained by any of the compet- superstitious credulity of his neighbors, was in itors. And still later, when he might be said to the habit of professing that "he felt a visible be getting old, he showed that he had not lost his decay of strength upon any time having his hair

VACCINATING THE TROOPS.

Col. McWhangdang is a great advocate of vaceffort, lifted the stone to its proper place, and then | cination, but the company he commands is not, and recently, before going into camp, the Colonel A man of great strength was William Joy, resolved to have the men vaccinated whether Doctor's office, supposing it to be Keene's. The Doctor saw his uniform, and at once ordered him seized. Before he could say a word the assistants cried the Doctor. "You villain, what are you such as placing a glass of wine on the sole of his about?" cried Pills. "You'll see," and whack went the Doctor's knife, and in spite of Pills' git!" cried the Doctor, and Pills was pushed out But the rougher sex have not had a monopoly and started down-stairs. Then in came Colonel same amazing experience, and the Doctor was flying around like a parched pea on a hot shovel, he was so busy. And as the vaccinated men began to accumulate outside and talk the matter over, their amazement was intense. Lieutenant

HE WON.

Some years ago a Lazy Man's Society was organized in London, and one of the articles renearly to the box of the wheels, the two horses quired that no man belonging to the society being unable to extricate it, "she descended, and should ever be in a hurry. Now it happened on with apparent ease, disengaged the caravan from a time that a member, a doctor, was seen drivits situation without any assistance whatever." ing post haste through the streets to visit a pa-Seizing the loops with his hands, the Frenchman, A contemporary writer describes this female tient. The members of the society saw him and Samson as "short, but most beautifully and deli- chuckled over the idea of a treat, and on his cately formed, and of a most lovely countenance." | return reminded him of his fast riding and viola-William Hutton, the well-known Birmingham | tion of the rules. "Not at all," said the doctor, antiquary, met in with another "strong woman" | determined not to be outdone; "the truth is, in the course of his wanderings in Derbyshire, my horse was determined to go, and I felt too Mr. Stanley tells us that Simba, chief overseer and described her in the Gentleman's Magazine of lazy to stop him." They did not catch him that

> FRANK was in the habit of falling out of bed during the night, and his father, to break him of the habit, would remind him of it the next morning. Yesterday, as usual, his father said to him, "Here, Frank, you fell out of bed again." "Oh, no, father," said Frank, "I didn't; it was the pillow, for I got up to see, and the pillow was on the floor beside the bed." "What made you cry, then?" said his father. "Well, you see," said Frank, in the most sober manner, "it was dark, and I could not tell whether it was me or the pillow.'

> One person out of 246,532 is struck by lightning, and when it strikes that fellow it rarely has to do the work over again. That is why lightning never strikes twice in the same place. It doesn't

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Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to answer certain inquiries of the same nature in each issue of our paper. While we cheerfully furnish information to subscribers in this column, we suggest that much labor, time, and expense may be saved both to ourselves and to our correspondents, if the latter and other subscribers would keep a file of the paper. They could then, at any time, turn to the file and probably find the very inquiry answered about which they would have written to us. We trust that each and every subscriber will profit by this suggestion.

L. K., Wilmington, Del.—The Commissioner of Pensions has the power and authority to reject a claim which he does not regard as meritorious or fully established. If the claim is established to the satisfaction of the Commissioner he does not reject it.

H. W., PORTLAND, ME.-There are ten Chiefs of Bureaus of the War Department who are officers of the regular army, viz: the Adjutant-General, Inspector-General, Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General, Surgeon-General, Paymaster-General, Chief of Engineers, Chief of Ordnance, Judge Advocate-General, and Chief Signal Officer.

R. L., Indianapolis, Ind.—We cannot advise or suggest to ex-soldiers and sailors in what portion of the United States they will find the most desirable lands on which to locate their homesteads, but we advise them to write to the Commissioner of the General Land Office here, and he will send all who seek information on the subject a pamphlet telling all about our public lands.

T. C., Syracuse, N. Y.—The Commissioner of Agriculture may give you the information you seek. W., DAYTON, O.-General Grant did not immediately succeed McClellan in command of the Army of the Potomac. Burnside, Hooker, and Meade intervened between them.

L. C. G., Brattleboro, Vt.—The Arrears of Pension law does not make any provision for an earlier commencement of pension to a dependent father, where the mother survived the soldier-as in your case—than from the termination of the right of the mother. The right of the mother terminated at her death, and as you have been allowed pension from the date of her death, you are not entitled under the

H. K., PITTSFIELD, Mass. - Under the present law the pension of a widow of a soldier ceases when she remarries, and her name cannot be restored to the Pension Roll even if she again becomes a widow. A bill to restore to the roll the names of widows dropped on account of remarriage, and who again become widows, was introduced in the 46th Congress, but was not reached for action.

A. E., ROCHESTER, N. Y.-In the case to which you refer, the parents of the deceased soldier will be drawn by the widow, provided Congress extends the time for filing claims for said bounty, which are now parents have no title to pension because the soldier left a widow surviving him.

W. T., New London, Conn. - If your pension claim should be disallowed, your attorney will be

B. J. F., Winamack, Ind.—Crime committed by an ex-soldier does not deprive him of his pension. unless connected in some way with the procuring of or maintaining the same.

B. F. C., FAIRMONT, MINN.-If you have located one hundred and sixty acres as a civilian, you are not entitled to any further benefits under the homestead laws on account of your service as a soldier. Soldiers, are not entitled to additional homesteads, unless original entry was made prior to June 20,

P. J. N., PINE HOLLOW, MINN.-If you have sustained bodily injuries in the service which deprived you of the use of any of your limbs, you are entitled once in every five years to an artificial limb or appliance, or commutation therefor. Application should be made direct to the Surgeon-General of the Army in this city, as attorney's cannot be recognized in such cases. Any disability which is equivalent to the loss of a hand or a foot is rated at \$18 a month.

C. H. C., Spring Hill, Iowa.—No law has been enacted granting \$200, additional bounty; in fact, the only law granting additional bounty was passed July 28, 1866. A bill to equalize bounties was introduced in last Congress, but did not pass either Senate or House of Representatives.

M. H., FISKE, PA .- "Can a soldier get his discharge who was wounded and furloughed home and did not return? I understand that the furlough was not dated when to return." A. He cannot, unless he prove by his attending physician that at the date of the expiration of his furlough (which was certainly granted for some definite period) to the date of muster-out of his command he was wholly unable to travel and rejoin his command, or report in person to the nearest military station of the

** Remaining answers next week.



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